

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant has resubmitted the previously filed 8/3/2005 Information Disclosure Statement to include a 1.97(e) certification statement.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, Applicant cancelled claims 1-4, therefore the rejection is moot.

Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because Applicant's specification does not provide proper enablement for "substantially the same time". Although Applicant does not concur with the Examiner, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant cancelled these claims, and added new claims 9, 11, and 13 which deleted the "substantially the same time" claim language and inserted "simultaneously" claim language to overcome the rejection. Support for this amendment can be found on Page 20, lines 1-12 of Applicant's specification.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuwata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,533,034). In response, Applicant added independent claims 9, 11, and 13 to further clarify features of the present invention, and respectfully traverses. Applicant traverses because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) a data transfer control process/processing means that sets an anomaly indication in data transmission information when an anomaly exists, and simultaneously transmits the data transmission information to a hierarchical control process/processing means.

Kuwata discloses a system having a data transmitter and two or more data receivers with an error detection signal wire that is shared by the transmitter and all of the data receivers. Kuwata also discloses a processing method for making the data transmitter resend the data to the data receivers when one of the data receivers detects an error in data. More specifically, whenever the data transmitter broadcasts data to the data receivers, each data receiver detects any errors from the received data. If one of the data receivers detects an error in the received data, then the data receiver discards the received data and sends an error detection signal to the data transmitter and other data receivers through the shared error detection signal wire. Next, the data transmitter broadcasts the same data again to all of the data receivers, soon after receiving the error detection signal.

The system of Kuwata is not premised on a process of controlling data flow between the data transmitter and the data receiver. Whenever an error detection signal is received, the data receiver will discard all the data, which the data receiver holds in its memory area, so as to receive new data to be resent from the data transmitter. The data transmitter will automatically resend only the same data transmitted immediately beforehand to all of the data receivers, if an error detection signal is received.

In contrast, in the present invention, a data transfer control process/processing means controls transferring data among a hierarchical control process/processing means based on the data transmission control management information that each hierarchical control process/processing means performs, and also based on a connection management table. Upon receiving the data transmission information including the anomaly indication, the data

transfer control process/processing means notifies of an occurrence of an anomalous event in a connection and discards only the data corresponding to this connection. That is, the hierarchical control process/processing means discards only the information corresponding to the connection out of the information held during processing, and performs normal processing for the other connections in which no anomaly events are detected.

In the system disclosed in Kuwata, the data receiver sends an error detection signal by itself. On the other hand, in the system according to the present invention, the hierarchical control process/processing means does not send an anomaly indication to the other hierarchical control processes/processing means.

Moreover, Kuwata has the data receiver send an error detection signal separately. In the present invention, the data transfer control process/processing means and a hierarchical control process/processing means notify of the occurrence of an anomalous event in the ordinary process for transmitting the data transmission information. That is, when detecting the anomalous event, the hierarchical control process/processing means notifies of an occurrence of the anomalous event by setting an anomaly indication in the data transmission information. The anomaly indication information pertains to the data to be transmitted and processed in the connection, for example, a destination of transmitting data to be processed, an identifier of connection, etc. The hierarchical control process/processing means further sends this information to the data transfer control process/processing means in a usual manner. The data transfer control process/processing means simultaneously notifies

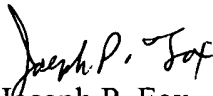
this occurrence of the anomalous event and of the necessity to discard the corresponding data to the hierarchical control process/processing means in the same manner.

Thus, the present invention has different processes/processing means that indicate when to discard data relating to an anomalous event, compared to the system of Kuwata. For these reasons, and since Kuwata fails to disclose a data transfer control process/processing means that sets an anomaly indication in data transmission information when an anomaly exists and simultaneously transmits the data transmission information to a hierarchical control process/processing means, allowance of new claims 9-14 is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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